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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I certify that the following correspondence has been transmitted via facsimile transmission to the US Patent Office at telephone number 703-746-7238 on May 27, 2003.

Signature: 

Date: May 27, 2003

Name: Robert Nakano

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re. Application of: HOWARD, Brett L.
Serial No.: 09/244,203
Filed: 02/04/1999
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CIPHERING DATA

Examiner: CALLAHAN, Paul E.
Art Unit: 2134
Confirmation No.: 3485

Atty's Docket No.: 53921/116

United States Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
U.S.A.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action made final mailed November 27, 2002. With this

Response, Applicant files:

- a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the time for responding to the Office Action by three months to May 27, 2003; and
- a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) for the application.

With the RCE, Applicant requests suspension of prosecution of the application for a period of three (3) months, per 37 CFR 1.103(c).

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Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge all fees (totalling \$1810), including fees for the Petition for Extension of time (\$930), the RCE (\$750) and the request for suspension of examination (\$130) and any additional excess fees to agent's account 02-2553.

Amendments to the specification are provided on pages 3 to 6 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are provided on pages 7 to 11 of this paper.

Remarks relating to the office action and the amendments to the specification and the claims are provided on pages 12 to 15 of this paper.

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